

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10

EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5522

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 0274

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, AO, CU, CG, UR

SUBJECT: CUBAN COMMENTS ON ZAIREAN COMPLAINT

REF: USUN 188 (NOTAL)

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JANUARY 23 LETTER FROM
CUBAN PERM REP TO SYG, COMMENTING ON ZAIREAN COMPLAINT OVER
CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN ANGOLA AND ZAIRE. TEXT OF LETTER HAS
BEEN CIRCULATED AS SECURITY COUNCIL DOCUMENT S//11941.
QUOTE

LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL

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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE APPEARS TO HAVE CONSIDERED IT NECESSARY TO PUT UP A SMOKE SCREEN TO HIDE THE RESOUNDING FAILURE OF THE AGGRESSION TO WHICH IT IS AN ACCOMPLICE DIRECTED AGAINST THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA WITH A VIEW TO OCCUPYING THE CITY OF LUANDA AND THE TERRITORY OF CABINDA PRIOR TO 11 NOVEMBER. IT IS ALSO ATTEMPTING TO DIVERT INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION FROM THE COMPLETE COLLAPESE OF THE SO-CALLED NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF ANGOLA (FNLA) AND ITS PURPORTED LEADER, THE NOTORIOUS CIA AGENT HOLDEN ROBERTO, WHICH IT HELPED TO ORGANIZE AND TO WHICH IT GAVE SUPPORT, AND FROM THE DEFEAT OF THE REGULAR ZAIREAN TROOPS IN CABINDA AND THE NORTH OF ANGOLA.

THERE CAN BE NO OTHER EXPLANATION FRO THE OUTRAGEIOUS CASE, BROUGHT TO YOUR ATTENTION TRHOUGH THE CHARGE D AFFAIRES OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ZAIRE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, IN THE LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF ZAIRE.

AT A TIME WHEN THE PEOPLES OF AFRICA AND WORLD OPINION ARE DEMANDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE TERMINATE ITS DISGRACEFUL COLLUSION WITH THE RACIST AND FASCIST GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND DISCONTINUE ITS SHAMEFUL POLICY AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF ANGOLA, THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE APPROACHES THE UNITED NATIONS IN ORDER TO ACCUSE THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA AND OTHER PROGRESSIVE GOVERNMENTS OF HOSTILE ACTS AGAINST ZAIRE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA HAS NO NEED TO JUSTIFY ITSELF TO WORLD PUBLIC OPINION, FAR LESS TO ITS BROTHER PEOPLES OF AFRICA. WHEN AFRICAN TRAITORS HELPED TO ENGINEER THE ASSASSINATION OF THE GREAT HERO OF OUR PEOPLES IN HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM, PATRICE LUMUMBA, CUBA REMAINED ON THE SIDE OF ITS BROTHERS IN THE FORMER BELGIAN CONGO. THE BLOOD OF CUBAN VOLUNTEERS WAS SHED ALONGSIDE THAT OF CUBA'S AFRICAN BROTHERS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM, WHICH RECIEVED SUPPORT FROM SOUTH AFRICA. NOW, THE LEADERS OF ZAIRE ARE ALLYING THEMSELVES WITH SOUTH AFRICA. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN COLLABORATION BETWEEN CUBA AND MANY PROGRESSIVE AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL MATTERS AND IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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TRAINING OF MILITARY PERSONNEL. CUBA DOES NOT DISGUISE THE FACT THAT IT HAS ASSISTED THE PEOPLE OF ANGOLA IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE EVER SINCE IT OBTAINED A FREE AND SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENT. CUBA PROVIDED ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE ONLY GENUINE AND MILITANT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE, THE MPLA, THE ORGANIZATION WHICH FOUGHT AGAINST PORUGAL WHILE THE CIA WAS TRANING HOLDEN ROBERTO'S "TROOPS" IN ZAIREAN TERRITORY, KEEPING THEM

AS A RESERVE TO TAKE POWER WHEN THE DAY OF VICTORY
FOR THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE ARRIVED.

THESE ARE THE FEELINGS OF SOLIDARITY WHICH ARE PROMPTING
CUBA'S PRESENCE IN ANGOLA. CUBAN MILITARY INSTRUCTORS, SUMMONED
BY THE LEADER OF THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE, AGOSTINHO NETO,
WENT TO ANGOLA TO HELP TO ORGANIZE THE POPULAR ARMED FORCES
IN THE NEW REPUBLIC AS IT WAS BEING SET UP. AS IS KNOWN,
THE RACIST GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND, IN AGREEMENT
WITH IT, THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE TRIED TO PREVENT THE CONSOLID-
ATION OF THAT INDEPENDENCE. ON 23 OCTOBER, SOUTH AFRICA ATTACKED
ANGOLA, AND ITS ARTILLERY FORCES, ARMoured VEHICLES AND LARGE NUMBERS
OF INFANTRY PENETRATED HUNDREDS OF KILOMETRES INTO ANGOLAN TERRI-
TORY. IT IS NO SECRET THAT, AT THE BEGINNING OF NOVEMBER,
THAT AGGRESSION BY SOUTH AFRICA WAS FOLLOWED BY AN
ATTEMPTED INVASION OF ZAIREAN REGULAR FORCES.

CUBA IS HONOURED THAT, SINCE THOSE EARLY DAYS IN NOVEMBER,
ITS CITIZENS HAVE BEEN EXTENDING TO MPLA CO-OPERATION WHICH
WAS A DECISIVE FACTOR IN PREVENTING ANGOLA FROM FALLING INTO
THE HANDS OF THE SHAMEFUL ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE FASCISTS
AND RACISTS OF SOUTH AFRICA AND AGENTS OF THE CIA WHICH
BEARS THE NAME OF FNLA. THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE WILL HAVE
TO ACCOUNT TO WORLD PUBLIC OPINION, AND IN
PARTICULAR TO THE AFRICANS, FOR ITS COMPLICITY
IN THAT ABJECT ALLIANCE WITH THE RACISTS OF SOUTH AFRICA.

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

CUBAN MILITARY COMBAT PERSONNEL WERE SENT TO ANGOLA, SIR,
IN RESPONSE TO AN APPEAL WHICH, ON ACCOUNT OF THE COWARDLY
AND CRIMINAL AGGRESSION BY SOUTH AFRICA, WAS MADE TO US
BY THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE WHICH, LED
BY PRESIDENT NETO, HAS NOW BEEN RECOGNIZED BY MORE THAN 40 COUNTRIES
IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, INCLUDING 23 AFRICAN COUNTRIES.
NO ONE HAS HAD THE AUDACITY TO CLAIM THAT THERE IS ANOTHER
GOVERNMENT IN ANGOLA.

THE CUBAN PRESENCE IN ANGOLA IS NOT MOTIVATED BY ANY HOSTILITY
TOWARDS ZAIRE; NOR IS CUBA ATTEMPTING TO HARM THE ECONOMIC
INTERESTS OF THAT COUNTRY. THE CUBANS IN ANGOLA ARE OBEYING
THE DECISIONS OF THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA. IF
ZAIRE HAD NOT LAUNCHED THE MILITARY ATTACKS INTO CABINDA
AND THE NORTH OF ANGOLA, BESIDES SHELTERING OTHER TROOPS
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IN ITS TERRITORY, IT WOULD NOT NOW BE A VICTIM OF THE
CONSEQUENCES OF OPERATIONS OF THE KIND THAT ARE NOW TAKING PLACE,
CLOSE TO ITS FRONTIERS, AGAINST THE SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES
WHICH WERE THREATENING TO OCCUPY WITH ARMoured TROOPS THE CITY
OF TEXEIRA DE SOUZA IN THE EAST OF ANGOLA IN THE VICINITY
OF THE ZAIREAN FRONTIER, THUS PROMPTING THE FORCES OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA TO BLOW UP THE BRIDGE ON THE
LUAO RIVER, WHICH IN THIS AREA LINKS ZAIRE AND ANGOLA, IN
ORDER TO PREVENT A REARGUARD ATTACK ON TEXEIRA DE SOUZA FROM ZAIRE.

THE PEOPLE OF ZAIRE SHOULD ASK THEMSELVES WHETHER THEIR INTERESTS
ARE LIKELY TO BE SERVED BY THE ARRIVAL AT THAT BRIDGE OF
TROOPS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RACISTS AND BY THE LATTER'S PERMANENT
CONTROL OF THE RAILWAY LINKING TEXEIRA DE SOUZA TO LOBITO
AND BEGUELA - ACTS WHICH MPLA IS TRYING TO AVOID BY ITS STRUGGLE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE SHOULD EXPLAIN IN THE NAME OF WHAT RIGHT,
PRIOR TO THE EVENTS IT REPORTED TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
ZAIREAN ARTILERY ATTACKED THE ANGOLAN AREA OF TEXEIRA DE
SOUZA AND ZAIREAN AIRCRAFT BOMBED TEXEIRA DE SOUZA AND
CAZOMBO, CAUSING INNOCENT VICTIMS IN AN AGGRESSION AS
CRIMINAL AS ITS WAS FUTILE. THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE ARE ENTITLED

TO DEFEND THEMSELVES FROM SUCH ACTS OF AGGRESSION. THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE SHOULD TAKE THE TROUBLE TO ASK THE COWARDLY LEADERS OF THE SO CALLED FNLA, WHO FLED TO ZAIRE AFTER THE DEFEAT OF THE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY BANDS SUPPORTED BY ZAIREAN REGULAR TROOPS AND WHITE MERCENARIES, WHY THEY WENT IN FOR KILLING WOMEN, CHILDREN AND OLD PEOPLE, ANGOLAN LIKE THEMSELVES, BLACK LIKE THEMSELVES, WITH THE SAME FASCIST VICIOUSNESS AS HAS BEEN INFLICTED FOR DECADES UPON THEIR BLACK BROTHERS BY THE RACISTS OF SOUTH AFRICA, WHO ARE NOW VENTING THEIR ANTI-BLACK RAGE ON THE POPULATION OF ANGOLA.

THIS AND MANY OTHER QUESTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE ANSWERED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAIRE IF IT DECIDED TO BRING ITS SCANDALOUS ACCUSATIONS TO A DEBATING FORUM. WE, SIR, ARE DOING NO MORE THAN TRANSLATING INTO PRACTICE THE PRINCIPLES WHICH JUSTIFY OUR PERMANENT PRESENCE IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

WE SUPPORT A LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT WHOSE AIM IS TO DEFEND THE INDEPENDENCE OF ITS OWN COUNTRY.

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WE ARE FIGHTING THE FASCIST AND RACIST REGIME OF SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH HAS BEEN CENSURED BY THE UNITED NATIONS AND BANNED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ON ACCOUNT OF ITS ATROCITIES AGAINST 14 MILLION BLACK INHABITANTS OF SOUTH AFRICA AND AGAINST THE ENSLAVED POPULATION OF NAMIBIA, AND WHICH IS NOW REACHING OUT TOWARDS THE TERRITORY OF ANGOLA WITH A VIEW TO GAINING CONTROL OF IT.

I ASK YOU, SIR, TO TAKE NOTE OF THIS REPLY, WHICH I WRITE ON BEHALF OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF CUBA, AND REQUEST YOU TO BRING IT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALSO TO ARRANGE FOR IT TO BE CIRCULATED AS A DOCUMENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

(SIGNED

RICARDO ALARCON DE QUESADA
AMBASSADOR
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CUBA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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